

**SECRET**

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Plans

SUBJECT : Review of Mister Pop by Don A. Schanche

1. A review of the recently published Mister Pop shows that, contrary to its newspaper publicity, it is neither an expose nor an indictment of the Central Intelligence Agency. The book is essentially the story of Edgar Buell, a retired Indiana farmer, who, since his arrival in Laos in 1960, has worked with the Meo tribesmen. Mr. Buell works for the International Voluntary Services (IVS) which is under contract to the Agency for International Development.

2. The Central Intelligence Agency is mentioned frequently throughout the book. The attachment to this memorandum contains extracts of all mention of the Central Intelligence Agency. For the most part, mention of the Central Intelligence Agency is very short and in passing. Most of the statements and allegations are well-known and have appeared before in the press, such as the statements that the Central Intelligence Agency rigged the 1960 elections. The only new item is the charge on page 244 that the Central Intelligence Agency in essence cornered the opium market in Laos. As you are well aware, the Central Intelligence Agency has not been involved in any program designed to control, transport, destroy or sell opium.

  
Chief, Far East Division

Attachment

**SECRET****GROUP 1**  
Excluded from automatic  
downgrading and  
declassification